



**Heal the sick, raise the dead,
cleanse lepers, cast out demons.
You received without paying;
give without pay.**

Matthew 9:8

Ascension Lutheran Church

"A Church for Families, a Family for Everyone"

June 18, 2023

THE THIRD SUNDAY AFTER THE PENTECOST
FATHER'S DAY
Sunday June 18, 2023

Welcome to all who are attending our service today. We are glad you are with us! To all guests and visitors, we especially extend our hands of friendship. May God bless the worship time for each one of you. Please come again!

NURSERY AVAILABLE We have an unstaffed nursery for your convenience and privacy. The nursery has audio and video so you may hear and see the worship service while attending to your child.

Holy Communion is celebrated at the 8:30 service on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month, and at the 11:00 service on the 2nd and 4th Sundays.

For those wishing to commune at the Lords Table with us today:

The Lutheran practice of close Communion attempts to prevent a person from eating and drinking judgment on himself (1 Corinthians 11:23–30). Thus, attendance at the Lords Supper implies a four-level commitment to Christ. We believe that communicants must: (1) be baptized Christians; (2) accept the real presence of Christs body in the bread and His blood in the wine; (3) confess and repent of ones sins and trust that God offers complete forgiveness of those sins in this Sacrament; and (4) share oneness of faith, doctrine and practice among those who commune. Those wishing to commune with us today who have not done so previously, please see the pastor or an elder before the service begins. *(Grape juice is available for those who do not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon request.)*

Para aquellos que desean participar en la Santa Cena con nosotros hoy: *La práctica luterana de la comunión intenta evitar que una persona coma y beba el juicio de Dios sobre sí mismo (1 Corintios 11:23–30). Por lo tanto, la asistencia a la Cena del Señor implica un compromiso de cuatro niveles con Cristo. Creemos que los comulgantes deben: (1) ser bautizados como cristianos; (2) aceptar la presencia real del cuerpo de Cristo en el pan y Su sangre en el vino; (3) confesar y arrepentirse de sus pecados y confiar en que Dios ofrece el perdón completo de esos pecados en este Sacramento; y (4) compartir la unidad de fe, doctrina y práctica entre los que comulgan. Aquellos que desean comulgan con nosotros hoy que no lo han hecho anteriormente, por favor vean al pastor o un anciano antes de que comience el servicio. (El jugo de uva está disponible para aquellos que no beben alcohol, y hostias libres de gluten están disponibles bajo petición.)*

+ PREPARATION +

Theme: “The Father’s Love”

As We Gather

The history of celebrating Father’s Day in the United States begins with a church service held in West Virginia in 1908, which recalled and honored the fathers who had perished in a coal mine disaster in the area in the previous year. Two years later, a more general annual observance began at a YMCA in Spokane, Washington. But it was not until 1972 that the day was declared to be a national holiday. Among the many qualities of positive fatherhood celebrated on Father’s Day is a sense of compassion. Many centuries ago, the psalmist wrote: “As a father shows compassion to his children, so the Lord shows compassion to those who fear Him” (Psalm 103:13). Each week in worship we recall and give thanks for the compassionate love of our God, the eternal Father, who bears His people on eagles’ wings and crowns them with steadfast love and mercy.

Prelude

Welcome

This Is My Father’s World

This is my Father’s world,
And to my listening ears
All nature sings and round me rings
The music of the spheres.
This is my Father’s world,
I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees of skies and seas,
His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father’s world,
The birds their carols raise,
The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker’s praise.

This is my Father's world,
He shines in all that's fair,
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass,
He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world,
O let me ne'er forget
That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet.
This is my Father's world,
The battle is not done.
Jesus who died shall be satisfied,
And earth and Heaven be one.

Public Domain

Invocation

- P** In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

Opening Sentences

Psalm 31:1, 14–15a, 16

- P** In You, O LORD, do I take refuge; let me never be put to shame;
C in Your righteousness deliver me!
- P** But I trust in You, O LORD; I say, "You are my God."
C My times are in Your hand.
- P** Make Your face shine on Your servant;
C save me in Your steadfast love!

Confession

(sung – "Rock of Ages" – stanza 2)

Not the labor of my hands, Can fulfill Thy law's demands;
Could my zeal no respite know, Could my tears forever flow,
All for sin could not atone; Thou must save, and Thou alone.

P Let us consider our unworthiness and confess before God and one another that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, and that we cannot free ourselves from our sinful condition.

C **For I know my transgressions, and my sin is always before me. Against You, You only, have I sinned and done what is evil in Your sight, so that You are proved right when You speak and justified when You judge.**
(Psalm 51:3-4)

P Together as His people let us take refuge in the infinite mercy of God, our heavenly Father, seeking His grace for the sake of Christ, and saying: God, be merciful to me, a sinner.

(sung – “Rock of Ages” – stanza 3)

**Nothing in my hand I bring,
Simply to Thy cross I cling.
Naked, come to Thee for dress;
Helpless, look to Thee for grace;
Foul, I to the fountain fly;
Wash me, Savior, or I die.**

P Let us pray.

C **Almighty God, have mercy upon us, forgive us our sins, and lead us to everlasting life. Amen.**

Absolution

P The Lord hears your confession, and you may rejoice in His grace. In the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father, and of the † Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

Salutation

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

Prayer of the Day

P Let us pray.

Almighty, eternal God, in the Word of Your apostles and prophets You have proclaimed to us Your saving will. Grant us faith to believe Your promises that we may receive eternal salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sharing The Peace of the Lord

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.

C And also with you.

+ THE WORD +

Old Testament Reading

Exodus 19:2-8 (ESV)

²[The people of Israel] set out from Rephidim and came into the wilderness of Sinai, and they encamped in the wilderness. There Israel encamped before the mountain, ³while Moses went up to God. The LORD called to him out of the mountain, saying, "Thus you shall say to the house of Jacob, and tell the people of Israel: ⁴You yourselves have seen what I did to the Egyptians, and how I bore you on eagles' wings and brought you to Myself. ⁵Now therefore, if you will indeed obey My voice and keep My covenant, you shall be My treasured possession among all peoples, for all the earth is mine; ⁶and you shall be to Me a kingdom of priests and a holy nation. These are the words that you shall speak to the people of Israel." ⁷So Moses came and called the elders of the people and set before them all these words that the LORD had commanded him. ⁸All the people answered together and said, "All that the LORD has spoken we will do." And Moses reported the words of the people to the LORD.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Lesson

Romans 5:6-11 (ESV)

⁶For while we were still weak, at the right time Christ died for the ungodly. ⁷For one will scarcely die for a righteous person—though perhaps for a good person one would dare even to die— ⁸but God shows his love for us in that while we were still sinners, Christ died for us. ⁹Since, therefore, we have now been justified by his blood, much more shall we be saved by him from the wrath of God. ¹⁰For if while we were enemies we were reconciled to God by the death of his Son, much more, now that we are reconciled, shall we be saved by his life. ¹¹More than that, we also rejoice in God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have now received reconciliation.

L This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Lambs' Lesson

Pr. Herb Hoefler

Holy Gospel

Matthew 9:35-10:20 (ESV)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the ninth and tenth chapters.

C Glory to You, O Lord.

³⁵Jesus went throughout all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the gospel of the kingdom and healing every disease and every affliction. ³⁶When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. ³⁷Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; ³⁸therefore pray earnestly to the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

¹And he called to him his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to heal every disease and every affliction. ²The names of the twelve apostles are these: first, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother; James the son of Zebedee, and John his brother; ³Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax collector; James the son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; ⁴Simon the Zealot, and Judas Iscariot, who betrayed him.

⁵These twelve Jesus sent out, instructing them, “Go nowhere among the Gentiles and enter no town of the Samaritans, ⁶but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. ⁷And proclaim as you go, saying, ‘The kingdom of heaven is at hand.’ ⁸Heal the sick, raise the dead, cleanse lepers, cast out demons. You received without paying; give without pay. ⁹Acquire no gold nor silver nor copper for your belts, ¹⁰no bag for your journey, nor two tunics nor sandals nor a staff, for the laborer deserves his food. ¹¹And whatever town or village you enter, find out who is worthy in it and stay there until you depart. ¹²As you enter the house, greet it. ¹³And if the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it, but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. ¹⁴And if anyone will not receive you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet when you leave that house or town. ¹⁵Truly, I say to you, it will be more bearable on the day of judgment for the land of Sodom and Gomorrah than for that town. ¹⁶Behold, I am sending you out as sheep in the midst of wolves, so be wise as serpents and innocent as doves. ¹⁷Beware of men, for they will deliver you over to courts and flog you in their synagogues, ¹⁸and you will be dragged before governors and kings for my sake, to bear witness before them and the Gentiles. ¹⁹When they deliver you over, do not be anxious how you are to speak or what you are to say, for what you are to say will be given to you in that hour. ²⁰For it is not you who speak, but the Spirit of your Father speaking through you.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Prayer/Love in Action Requests Gathered

“How Shall They Hear,” Who Have Not Heard

- 1 “How shall they hear,” who have not heard
News of a Lord who loved and came;
Nor known His reconciling word,
Nor learned to trust a Savior’s name?
- 2 “To all the world,” to ev’ry place,
Neighbors and friends and far-off lands,
Preach the good news of saving grace;
Go while the great commission stands.

- 3 “Whom shall I send?” Who hears the call,
Constant in prayer, through toil and pain,
Telling of One who died for all,
To bring a lost world home again?
- 4 “Lord, here am I:” Your fire impart
To this poor cold self-centered soul;
Touch but my lips, my hands, my heart,
And make a world for Christ my goal.

Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, 1926

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Sermon
“HEAL, RAISE, CLEANSE, CAST OUT”

Pr Herb Hoefler
Matthew 10:8

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Maker of Heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into Heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Christian Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

Tithes and Offerings

(Our offerings are made as an act of worship, given in loving response to all that God has graciously given us, both materially and spiritually.)

Hymn For Father's Day

(In honor of all fathers – a gift from God)
(tune: "Eternal Father, Strong to Save")

To fathers near and far we sing,
our gratitude and thanks we bring.
Your strength throughout our early years
helped us to conquer all our fears.
And when we needed extra care,
our comfort came when you were there.

To dads and husbands ev'rywhere,
Our hopes, our dreams, our lives we share.
The fam'ly ties which we hold dear
Bind us together far and near.
We have so many things to say
As we all celebrate today.

And to our fathers, thanks we lift
For their great love, a precious gift.
Lord Jesus, be with them, we pray.
Send down Your Spirit ev'ry day.
Let all the fathers now be blessed,
Both here on earth and saints at rest.

C. Martin Staub. Copyright 2008.

A Prayer for Fathers' Day

P Lord, on this day set aside to honor and remember fathers, we give You thanks for those men who have loved us and sheltered us, challenged and inspired us. We thank You for each man who supported us, struggled with us, helped us find our calling in life and showed us how to be people of both strength and gentleness.

Thank you, God, for the men who taught us Your will and Your Word. Thank You for the men in our lives who have prayed and watched over us and who showed us through their commitment to You, how important You are.

Grant to those men among us who are now raising children an extra measure of wisdom that they may know how to guide young feet through an increasingly turbulent world. Give to them strength to know how to be tough as well as tender, demanding as well as forgiving. For the blessing and gift of our fathers, we give You thanks, O Lord, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayer of the Church

P Let us pray for the whole Church of God in Christ Jesus and for all people according to their needs.

Almighty God, You treasure Your people for Christ's sake and give us Your commandments to guide our ways. Grant that we, redeemed by His blood, may do all He has spoken. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P Holy God, send forth laborers to make known the Gospel of Your kingdom in Christ Jesus. Prosper the labor of pastors, missionaries and all church workers, that many peoples may hear, believe and praise You. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P O God, our God, the earth still yields its increase under Your care and preservation. Bless us with daily bread and give us wisdom as stewards of Your creation. Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We make petitions for the sick, the shut-in, the sorrowing, those undergoing hardship or challenges, and all who this day need our prayers, especially...that their prayers may be soon answered and that they be supported by God's people as they experience His good and gracious will for their lives.

Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

P We pray for those celebrating this week, including...Lord, in Your mercy,

C **hear our prayer.**

- P** Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.
- C** Amen.

Lord's Prayer

- P** Taught by our Lord and trusting in His promises, we are bold to pray:
- C** **Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth
as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those
who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For Thine is the kingdom
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

(11:00am service, please turn to page 15 for the benediction.)

+ SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT +

**We believe in the real presence of the body and blood of
Christ in Holy Communion.**

Here our Lord offers to us the forgiveness of all our sins.

*(Grape juice is available in the center of the trays for those who do
not drink alcohol, and gluten-free wafers are available upon
request.)*

Preface

- P** The Lord be with you.
- C** And also with you.

P Lift up your hearts.
C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Pax Domini

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

+ DISTRIBUTION SONGS +

Lamb of God

1 Your only Son, no sin to hide,
But You have sent Him from Your side
To walk upon this guilty sod,
And to become the Lamb of God.

ref O Lamb of God, sweet Lamb of God,
I love the holy Lamb of God!
O wash me in His precious blood,
My Jesus Christ, the Lamb of God.

2 Your Gift of love they crucified,
They laughed and scorned Him as He died:
The humble King they named a fraud,
And sacrificed the Lamb of God. **refrain**

3 I was so lost, I should have died,
But You have brought me to Your side
To be led by Your staff and rod,
And to be called a lamb of God. **refrain**

Text: Twila Paris, 1958

Text: © 1985 Straightway Music, admin. EMI. Used by permission: LSB Hymn License no. 110004673

Here I Am, Lord

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard My people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin -- My hand will save.
I Who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear My light to them? Whom shall I send?

(Refrain)

**Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard You calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, If You lead me.
I will hold Your people in my heart.**

I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne My people's pain.
I have wept for love of them, they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone, Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak My word to them. Whom shall I send? **(refrain)**

I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them, My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give My life to them. Whom shall I send? **(refrain)**

by Daniel Schutte, text and music © 1981 OCP Publications. Used with permission under OneLicense #A-729093.

Post-Communion Thanksgiving

P Let us pray.

O God, You have fed Your grateful disciples with the true manna, the living bread from heaven, at Your Table of grace. Grant, we implore You, that the body and blood of Your Son be our support throughout our earthly pilgrimage, until we reach that land where there is neither hunger nor thirst; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

Benediction

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and † give you peace.
- C** Amen.

Announcements

(See the FYI in the back of the Bulletin for more information.)

Go My Children, With My Blessing

1 Go, My children, with My blessing,
Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you;
You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river
I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing—
You are My own.

2 Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you,
What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story;
Here you touched Him, saw His glory.
Go, My children, sins forgiven,
At peace and pure.

3 Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving,
Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you;
Here His tender comfort stilled you.
Go, My children, fed and nourished,
Joyful and free.

4 I the Lord will bless and keep you
And give you peace;
I the Lord will smile upon you
And give you peace:
I the Lord will be your Father,
Savior, Comforter, and Brother.
Go, My children; I will keep you
And give you peace.

Text: Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1919–2008

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Dismissal

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God!**

Acknowledgments

Creative Worship for the Lutheran Parish, Series A, Quarter 3.

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*Thank you to the Hazen's for the lovely Altar flowers
in honor of Wendy's Birthday.*

† SAVE THE DATE

Save the date! Sunday, August 20 at 10:30am ~ ONE WORSHIP ~ Lunch will follow. Look for more details to come!

† WHAT: WORSHIP WORKSHOP LED BY PR JIM

Who: All worship helpers

When: Saturday, June 24 at 12:30pm after The Chosen

Where: Community Room, lunch will be provided

Why: Coming together to better understand our roles and teamwork will bless members and visitors alike, which brings glory to God.

All participants (**or potential participants**) in worship activities are encouraged to attend, including Elders, worship assistants, greeters, ushers, audio/visual and Power Pointers, readers, and staff members. Please call or email the office to let them know you will attend so we can plan for food.

† PRAYER NEEDS?

Contact the church office with any requests, please e-mail: office@alcpportland.org or call 503-665-8821 Monday through Friday 9am to 3pm.

† PRAYERS ARE REQUESTED FOR:

The Family of Rich Zahursky, The Brown Family, Carolyn Barendse, Gina Kreps, Jerry and Alma Bangs, Kevin McInaney, Judy Blubaum, Robert (Virginia Jacobs Brother), Cindy Linnemann, Brian Laxton, Karla Deal, Mike Fogarty, Emily Kohnke (member of the Webber Family), Mike Hatley, Lorraine Haggard, Esperanza Gutierrez, Kim Laxton, Antonia Martinez (mother of Esperanza Gutierrez), *Barbara Schrader, *Larry Hart. *Home Bound.

† PRAY FOR OUR MILITARY:

Michael Williamson, Air Force, Reserve — Texas (grandson of Rebecca Williamson);

Jamie Wong-Lopez, Marines — Annapolis MD (nephew of Kevin and Merci McInaney);

Clayton Wright, Air Force — Yokota AFB Japan (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Colton Wright, Navy — (grandson of Virginia Jacobs);

Tyler Young, Navy — Deployed (nephew of Karen Arronson).

ASSISTING IN SERVICE TODAY, SUNDAY, JUNE 18

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Dave Oswald	Dan Parshall
Acolytes:		Jaden Mundo
Ushers:	Stan Chapulis Bob Rekdahl Randy Schroeder	Jonathan Mundo Joshua Mundo
	NEEDED	
Audio/Visual:	Laura Potter	NEEDED
PowerPoint:	Debbie Rekdahl	John Hazen
Greeters:	Norma Dillon Jean Dillon	Margaret Hubbard Esperanza Gutierrez
Readers:	Sheryl Maier	Carlyn Staudt
Altar Guild:	Both Services	Virginia Jacobs
Flowers:	Both Services	Hazen
Counters:	Both Services	Karon Keup and Sheryl Maier

ASSISTING IN SERVICE SUNDAY, JUNE 25

	8:30am	11:00am
Elder:	Herb Hoefler	Bruce Blubaum
Acolytes:		
Ushers:	Jim Eckart NEEDED	Matthias McInaney Evan Kreps Eric Kreps Marcus Young
Audio/Visual:	Stan Chapulis	J. E. Knox
PowerPoint:	Jenny Schuldheisz	Rosemary Knox
Greeters:	Sheryl Maier	Riki Neagle
Readers:	Jim Eckart	Peggy Hall
Altar Guild:	Both Services	Debbie Rekdahl
Flowers:	Both Services	Sheryl Maier
Counters:	Both Services	Bob and Elaina Ritchie

EVENTS THIS WEEK – SUN., JUNE 18 - SAT., JUNE 24

Sunday, June 18	8:30am	Worship with Communion
Father's Day	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship
	5:00pm	Worship in Spanish
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, June 20	6:00pm	3:10 Group
Wednesday, June 21	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
	6:00pm	C-101 week 4
Thursday, June 22		NEWSLETTER ITEMS DUE
	6:00pm	Praise Team
Friday, June 23	6:30pm	Noche Familiar
Saturday, June 24	10:30am	The Chosen Episode 7
	12:30pm	Worship Meeting with Lunch

EVENTS NEXT WEEK – SUN., JUNE 25 - SAT., JULY 1

Sunday, June 25	8:30am	Worship
Father's Day	9:45am	Education Hour
	11:00am	Worship with Communion
	5:00pm	Worship in Spanish with Comm.
	6:00pm	Online Worship Posted
Tuesday, June 27	6:00pm	3:10 Group
Wednesday, June 28	2:00pm	Crafting Get-Together
	6:00pm	C-101 week 5
Thursday, June 29	6:00pm	Praise Team
Friday, June 30	6:30pm	Noche Familiar

† MILESTONES - SUN., JUNE 18 - SAT., JUNE 24**BAPTISM BIRTHDAYS:**

Dustin Schaffer	Jun 18	Herb Hoefler	Jun 22
Herb Reiniger	Jun 22	Carrie Graham	Jun 24

BIRTHDAYS

James Freeman	Jun 19	Gaby Alvarado	Jun 20
Mike Hatley	Jun 20	Wendy Hazen	Jun 20
Riki Neagle	Jun 20	Jere Maier	Jun 23

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES:

Mike and Eileen Hatley	June 20, 1970
Bob and Elaina Ritchie	June 22, 1991
Johnnie and Kim Driessner	June 24, 1977

Ascension Lutheran Church

1440 SE 182nd Avenue, Portland, OR 97233
Church: 503-665-8821 • Web Site: www.alcportland.org
Church Office Hours: Monday–Friday 9am to 3pm

Our Mission Statement:

~Go and Share Jesus Christ~

Our Vision Statement:

“Take part...Join Jesus on His mission.”

The members of Ascension Lutheran Church are committed to being God's witnesses in Gresham, and in all of Portland and the Northwest, and to the ends of the earth (Acts 1:8):

With the universal Christian Church, we believe, teach and respond to the love of the Triune God—the Father, Creator of all that exists; the Son Jesus Christ, Who left His home in Heaven to become flesh and blood, to suffer and die for the sins of all peoples of the world, and Who rose from the grave, victorious over sin, death and the devil, that we too might live with Him in Heaven; and the Holy Spirit, Who creates faith in our hearts in Christ Jesus through God's Word and Sacrament. The three Persons of the Holy Trinity are one God, co-equal and co-eternal. The core teachings of our faith from the Lutheran perspective can be summarized in three short phrases: Grace alone, Scripture alone, Faith alone.

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